

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub. A1

1. A method of delivering processing solution to a processing apparatus wherein the solution is supplied in a storage container, the container forming part of a metering system.

Sub B1

2. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the metering system is a positive displacement system.

3. A method as claimed in claim 2 wherein the displacement is caused by movement of a cam.

4. A method as claimed in claim 2 wherein the displacement is caused by a screwthreaded member.

5. A method as claimed in claim 2 wherein the displacement is caused by linear motion delivery.

6. A method as claimed in claim 1 whereby the container has no voids or airspace within, thus ensuring no movement of solution within the container and ensuring accurate delivery throughout operation.

7. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the container is punctured as it is fitted onto the processing apparatus.

8. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the container is punctured prior to being fitted onto the processing apparatus.

9. A method as claimed in claim 2 wherein the container is fully emptied by the positive displacement system.

10. A delivery unit for supplying low viscosity processing solution to a processing apparatus, the unit comprising a storage container having

a nozzle at one end thereof and incorporating a piston therein, and means for activating the piston such that a fixed amount of solution is delivered out of the container via the nozzle each time the piston is activated. ✓

11. A delivery unit as claimed in claim 10 wherein a plastic seal is provided behind the piston. ✓

12. A delivery unit as claimed in claim 10 wherein a non return valve is fitted to the end of the nozzle. ✓

13. A delivery unit as claimed in claim 10 wherein the front end of the piston is shaped to fit exactly into the nozzle. ✓

14. A delivery unit as claimed in claim 10 wherein the activation means comprises a rod for pushing the piston, the rod being in connection with a clutch plate activated by a cam. ✓

15. A delivery unit as claimed in claim 14 wherein the rod is provided with spiked cutting means. ✓

16. A delivery unit as claimed in claim 14 wherein the amount of solution delivered can be varied by changing the stroke of the clutch and thereby the displacement of the piston. ✓

17. A delivery unit as claimed in claim 10 wherein the activation means comprises a screw thread mechanism. ✓

18. A delivery unit as claimed in claim 17 wherein the amount of solution delivered can be varied by altering the number of rotations on the screw thread. ✓

19. A delivery unit as claimed in claim 10 wherein the unit is provided with identification means to identify the particular solution contained within the container.

20. A delivery unit as claimed in claim 10 wherein the container is manufactured from recyclable plastics material.

21. A delivery system for delivering processing solutions to a processing apparatus including a unit as claimed in claim 10.